

Applicants hereby elect Group I (claims 1-11 and 56-66), with traverse with respect to the restriction between Groups I and II. Applicants expressly reserve their right under 35 U.S.C. § 121 to file a divisional application directed to the nonelected subject matter during the pendency of this application, or an application claiming priority from this application.

Should the Examiner uphold the restriction requirement with respect to Groups I and II and the product claim is subsequently found allowable, Applicants reserve the right to request rejoinder of withdrawn process claims which include all the limitations of the allowable product claim for examination (M.P.E.P. §821.04).

With regard to Group I, the Examiner required an election of a species among the allegedly distinct groups of (a) solid or liquid phase microcarrier and (b) covalently or non-covalently linked IMP/MC complex. Accordingly, Applicants hereby elect "solid phase" microcarrier and "covalently" linked IMP/MC complex. Applicants request that, upon allowance of a generic claim, the remainder of the species be included as permitted by 37 C.F.R. § 1.141(a).

CONCLUSION

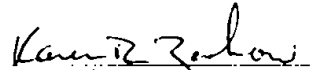
Applicants request reconsideration of the restriction requirement and examination of the elected subject matter on the merits.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket no. 377882001700. However, the Assistant Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: February 11, 2003

By:



Karen R. Zachow
Registration No. 46,332

Morrison & Foerster LLP
3811 Valley Centre Drive, Suite 500
San Diego, California 92130
Telephone: (858) 720-5191
Facsimile: (858) 720-5125